

Masses

Saturday Eve 5:00PM
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30AM,
12Noon and 4:30PM

Daily 7:15, 8:45 AM
Saturday 8:45 AM

Pastoral Team

Pastor

Father Chuck Romano

Associate Pastors

Father Benedict Kim
Father Joseph Rwamwenge

Deacons

Deacon Robert C. Campbell, OFS
Deacon Thomas Wm. Connolly, T.O Carm
Deacon Guy Donza, S.F.D.
Deacon Richard W. LaRossa
Deacon Thomas J. Malone Jr., T.S.A.

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Lucy Ostermann

Business Manager

Christopher Grennen

Parish Staff

Music Ministry

Laura Garbitelli

Folk Group

AnnMarie Lynch

Plant Manager

Steve Bennett

Parish Secretary

Doreen Dolan

Bulletin Editor

Linda Ohlsen

The Parish of St. Raymond

A Eucharistic Community of Faith, Love and Friendship

Sunday, January 5, 2025

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

“And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.”

-Matt 2:10



January 5, 2025

The Epiphany of the Lord

Welcome To Our Parish Family!

Not registered? Please stop by our rectory during office hours to be included in our parish family.

Rectory

Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm;
Saturdays from 9:30am-4pm. Sundays 9am-5pm

Web Site: www.SaintRaymonds.org

Facebook: St. Raymond Parish, East Rockaway

E-Mail: StRayRcc@optonline.net

Rectory.....593-5000

Rectory Fax.....887-0554

Parish Social Ministry.....887-9197

Office Hours are Monday-Wednesday from 10am-2pm.

Parish Social Ministry Fax.....593-6278

Religious Education Office593-9075

Religious Education Office Fax593-1156

E-Mail: strayfaithformation@aol.com

Pastoral Care Of The Sick

Holy Communion—Available to the homebound;
call the rectory to schedule a visit

Devotions

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays from 1-4pm in Our Lady's Chapel.

Nocturnal Adoration

First Fridays from 7:30pm-8:30pm

Miraculous Medal Novena

Saturdays following 8:45am Mass.

Confessions

Saturdays from 3:30-4:30pm, or call for appointment.

Baptisms

Baptisms are celebrated the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Please call the rectory to schedule.

Bereavement Support Group

Call the rectory office for meeting times.

Marriages

Engaged couples are encouraged to call the rectory a year in advance of their wedding date to assure adequate time to participate in preparation programs for the Sacrament of Marriage.

Prayer Groups

Men's Prayer Group: Every Monday at 10:00am in the Rectory Basement.

Music Ministries

Choir (Adult): Sings at 10:30am Mass on Sundays from September—June; practice on Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the church.

Folk Group: Sings at 12 Noon Mass on Sundays from September—June; practice on Sunday at 10:30 in the Rectory Basement

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Interested in becoming a Catholic or an adult Catholic seeking Eucharist or Confirmation? Call the rectory and ask for Fr. Chuck Romano



The Catholic Faith Network (CFN)

Broadcast of the Celebration of the Eucharist:

Daily Mass Celebrated by Pope Francis from the Santa Marta Chapel in Rome

Monday - Friday at 11:00 am, 9:30 pm ET

Saturday at 11:00 am, 9:30 pm ET

Sunday at 1:30 pm, 8:30 pm ET

St. Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre, NY

Monday – Friday at 8:30 am, 12:30 pm ET

Sunday at 11:00 am, 7:00 pm ET

St. Patrick's Cathedral, NY

Monday – Friday at 6:30 pm ET

Sunday at 3:30 pm ET

St. Raymond's Bulletin...

As a reminder, in case you forget to pick up your weekly Sunday bulletin, you can view it on our website:

www.saintraymonds.org.

If you would like to advertise an upcoming event for a St. Raymond Ministry or group, please email your article or notice two Fridays before the date of the bulletin to:

strayrcc@optonline.net.

Please write: "Attention Bulletin Editor" in the subject line of you email. All bulletin articles are subject to the Pastor's approval.



Always keep our Service Men & Women in your prayers ...

LC Alex James Cooper US MARINE CORPS
LC Dean Thomas Cooper US MARINE CORPS
Lt. Col. Mary P. King , M.D., US ARMY
Commander Joseph Garbitelli US NAVY
Staff /Sgt. Matthew R. Hines - US ARMY
LC Connor Thomas McHale US MARINE CORPS
Sgt. Gerard Moran
Lt. Com. Joseph Leahy US NAVY
Sgt. Bryan Petriccione US ARMY –Cavalry Unit
Lt. Joseph Woloszyn US NAVY
TSGT Curt Abdool US AIRFORCE

*Please remember to pray for our
wounded soldiers.*

Greetings and God's continued Christmas blessings be yours on the Feast of the Epiphany! Today we acknowledge the manifestation of the birth of Jesus to the whole world through the coming of the Magi, also known as the Three Kings or Three Wise Men. The Magi followed the light of a star to find the newborn Jesus who is the light of the world, the light that we should follow all our lives. In the first reading from the prophet Isaiah, Jerusalem signifying the Chosen People will have the light of God's glory to guide them. **"Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come."** Then in the second reading from the Letter to the Ephesians, Paul emphasizes that the Gentiles now have the same right to salvation and God's favor as the Chosen People. This has been revealed through the Holy Spirit. **"...that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel."** And finally, we have Matthew's account of the Magi coming to Bethlehem by following the light of a star. **"They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother."** After presenting their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, they were told in a dream not to return to Herod, so they went home by another route. Because of this, Herod became angry and planned for the slaughter of the Holy Innocents. All baby boys, two years old and younger were put to death.

What does it say that the Magi **"saw his star at its rising?"** They saw this light among countless others but attached a particular importance only to this star. They knew to let this particular light lead their way. And they knew to stop in Jerusalem and ask questions that lead them to a relatively insignificant town. The rest of the story we all know. We talk a lot about **"following the Lord"** or **"letting Jesus light our path,"** or **"doing God's will."** We make it seem that these things are easy, very clear and all we have to do is simply agree to whatever God is asking of us or go to wherever he wants us to go. But in our hearts, we know that these things are anything but easy. Knowing what God wants and where to go are both hard. Our lives are filled with all kinds of voices and other lights trying to grab our attention and lead us far from God. Our faith journey is one in which we try to let God do the leading, not someone else or something else.

So, what are we to do? These are not one size fits all situations. We just can't give up though and stop trying to live as God wants us to and become who God wants us to become. Maybe the Magi can teach us something valuable today. Like them, we too must be open to the possibility that God might be trying to get our attention, might be trying to communicate with us. Like them we must be willing to leave what is comfortable and familiar to embrace something unknown and maybe a bit scary. Like them we need to be aware of other stars in the sky, other voices and influences and temptations that vie for our attention. And like them we must be willing to stay the course, even if the journey feels too much at times. Plus, like them we must be willing to change our minds if necessary. But, most of all we must have eyes to recognize what we are searching for when we finally gaze upon it, encounter it, stumble upon it or uncover it. Of course, as people of faith what we are searching for is a who, our loving God in our midst. The Magi knew the importance of such a journey. May we know the same.

Please take home a copy of the bulletin when you leave Mass today. It contains many items of interest and invitation with something for everyone. Of special note is news and needs from **Parish Social Ministry**, info from **Religious Education** (Faith Formation), the **Eucharistic Revival Centerfold**, the **Communal Prayer Before Mass** (found on the inside back cover), an invitation to join **FORMED** (your Catholic Faith on demand) and much more. To keep informed, keep a copy of the bulletin at home each week for quick and easy reference.

Have a great week! **Smile, share and continue your seeking in Bethlehem. Worship the Infant Jesus and open your hearts in welcome to his grace filled presence. And remember: One day you'll be just a memory. Be a good one.** God bless always. **-Father Chuck**



WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

JANUARY 5, 2025-THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

We praise you,

we bless you,

we adore you,

we glorify you,

we give you thanks for your great

glory, Lord God, Heavenly King,

O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the

Father, You take away the sin of the

world, have mercy on us;

You take away the sin of the world,

receive our prayer; You are seated

at the right hand of the Father,

have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One;

you alone are the Lord.

You alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God, the Father.

Amen

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,

the Father almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial

with the Father; through him all things

were made. For us men and for our

Salvation he came down from heaven,

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate

of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under

Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,

and rose again on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand

of the Father. He will come again in

Glory to judge the living and the dead

and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the

Son, who with the Father and the Son is

adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and

apostolic Church. I confess one

Baptism for the forgiveness of

Sins and I look forward to the

resurrection of the dead and the

life of the world to come.

Amen.

Penitential Act

**I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,**

that I have greatly sinned,

in my thoughts and in my words,

in what I have done and

in what I have failed to do,

[Pray while striking the breast 3 times.]

through my fault, through my fault,

through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,

all the Angels and Saints,

and you, my brothers and sisters,

to pray for me to the Lord our God.

READINGS FOR TODAY'S MASS

JANUARY 5, 2025-THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses. Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you
O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you
Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you
The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts; the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute. All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you
For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: *And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.*" Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director



Classes will resume and the office will re-open on Monday 1/6/2025

Epiphany Sunday – Sunday 1/5/2025 - 12Noon Mass - Epiphany Sunday procession. All students are invited to attend this Mass. Students in grades 2 & 3 will participate in a procession leading the Three Kings to our Lord's Manger.

Attention 2nd grade Parents

There will be a 2nd grade parent meeting on Tuesday, January 7th, 2025 at 7:30pm via Zoom to discuss the upcoming First Reconciliation details. The link will be forwarded to parents on January 7th. Your child will be given the packet that would have been distributed at an in-person meeting on Tuesday, January 7th. Please check his/her folder when they come home from Religion class that day.

Attention 4th grade Parents

Our 4th grade students will participate in a Living Rosary during class time the week of January 13th, 2025. We will be rehearsing the week of January 6th, 2025 during class time as well. Parents and family members are welcome to attend if schedules allow.





CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Dr. Marynita Anderson

The Isabakaki Family
The Anderson Family
The Wells Family

M/M Peter Birmingham

Carmel & Aiden Walker
Astrid, John & Sean
Birmingham
Suzanne Boden
Louise & Bill Saar
Bruce Albala

Mrs. Edward Carey

Carey & VonUrf
Families

Mrs. Lucie Davis

Guadalupe Seeberg
Arthur Chute

M/M K. Dombrowski

Frank Dombrowski
Marian Dombrowski
Theodore Krewski
Aniela Krewski
Helen Krewski

M/M Frank Francia

Frank Artusa
Lucille Foley
Sal & Betty Armellino
Mary & John Stella
James Armellino

Mrs. Francis Gallagher

Francis Gallagher
Deceased 8/22/22

Ms. Jean Leonardo

DiBartelemo Family
Gardell Family
Lombardi Family
Leonardo Family

M/M S. Marrandino

Marrandino & Mullin
Families

Mrs. Sally Perry

George Perry

Murphy Family

George & Eleanor Koefner
Mike & Francis Murphy
Dennis Murphy
Robert Murphy
George C. Koefner
Vita Parinello
Jo & John Minutello

Mrs. Robert Murray

Murray & Brett
Families
Heslin & Cussen Families

Mulroy Family

McCully Family

Eric Seifert

Mike Horn

All Souls

Mrs. Maureen Rogone

Joseph Rogone

Russo Family

Louis Russo

Cathy Masceli

Family in Heaven

Those who serve

M/M S. Schendlinger

Cornelius Wall

Mary Fleming

M/M Paul Sirianni

Helen & Vincent Sirianni

Patricia & John Walsh

James Walsh

Thaddeus Walsh

M/M Aniello Tarricone

Alicja Platek

M/M Peter Walsh

The Ferrick Family



The Epiphany

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

St. Raymond's Parish Social Ministry

The Ryan House

"The Heart of the Parish"

12 Roosevelt Avenue, Lynbrook, NY 11563

516-887-9197



FOOD PANTRY HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY THRU WEDNESDAY FROM

10AM TO 3PM

(Suggested to call for an appointment)

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

In addition to the wonderful gifts that our clients received from the donations of those who participated in the Giving Tree, during the month of December, the Parish Social Ministry assisted 78 households with food, personal care and household items and provided them with other services they needed. Also, one new client was welcomed into our Outreach Program and the client received food assistance and information on organizations that might be able to assist them with other services, such as DSS, Catholic Charities and St. Vincent de Paul.

Pantry items still needed: Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Razors, Shampoo, Conditioner, Laundry Detergent and Dish Detergent.

Food donations can be brought to the Ryan House during its open hours or non-perishable food can be left in the bin on the Ryan House porch or in the Altar Server's Sacristy.

Thank you all for our continued support and generosity. As we enter the new year, may the Lord's grace be upon you and we wish you a year filled with faith, hope, love and peace." HAPPY 2025!



**Because no marriage is beyond hope...
A marriage-saving program her in the
New York/Metropolitan Area.**

-Is your marriage tearing you apart?

-Do you feel hurt and angry?

-Does talking make it worse?

-Thought of leaving or divorce?

-Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

Retrouvaille can help.

Our Next Weekend is January 24-26, 2024

Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington

To register of for more information:

1-800-470-2230 HelpOurMarriage.org

HelpOurMarriage.org Retrouvaille is a practical program for married couples facing difficult challenges It is not a marriage retreat, or counseling. You will not be asked to share the personal details of your story. Retrouvaille is different; it's a way to improve your communication, help you reconnect, and build a healthy, happier, stronger marriage. Catholic in origin, couples of all faiths, or no faith background, are welcome to attend. We are a Christian Peer Ministry offering tens of thousands of marriages hope in over 160 communities world-wide.





ST. RAYMOND'S HUMAN LIFE COMMITTEE

Good News!

The Biden Administration has pulled back a planned mandate that would have forced Christian employers to cover birth control for their employees. The decision to rescind the mandate will enable insurers and health insurance plans to cut out birth control coverage for employers and private universities that object. Also, American Life League Pres., Judie Brown, has announced that when President Trump takes office, she will be working with the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) to defund Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood receives almost one billion dollars each year of our tax dollars and is responsible for over 300,000 babies killed each year. Sadly, the number of babies they've actually killed is far greater. PP does not count the babies they've killed through the abortion pills. Please pray for the success of this life saving endeavor. We would like to thank the members of our Parish's Social Ministry who so graciously shared this year's "Giving Christmas Tree" with our Committee and the work they did to organize all the gifts. And thanks to those who donated gift cards (Target, Kohl's, Shop & Stop, Walmart) and many baby items that filled four shopping carts to the brim. All were give to the pregnancy center in Hempstead where the need is great. The first time volunteer at the center was overwhelmed by the generosity and caring of you, our parishioners. And a special thanks to Steve Bennett, plant manager, who carried all the packages for Social Ministry and the Human Life Committee up the rectory stairs and helped pack our cars, as usual, with his wonderful, cheerful attitude. May God abundantly bless all of you for your continuing support of both baby and mother.

Spiritual Adoption Of An Unborn Child



*Jesus. Mary and Joseph. I
love you very much.
I beg you to spare the life of
the unborn baby that I have
spiritually adopted who is in
danger of abortion.
-Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen*

STEP BY STEP WALK THROUGH THE MASS
DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME
FATHER LUKE SPANNAGEL
NATIONAL EUCHARIST REVIVAL BLOG



Lamb of God
Part 2

We continue from last week's discussion of the prayer the Lamb of God, which is said while the priest breaks the Bread and puts a piece of the host into the chalice to signify the unity of the Body and Blood of the Lord in the work of salvation, namely, of the Body of Jesus Christ, living and glorious" (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 83)

The Meaning of the Lamb of God

In greater depth, Charles Belmonte, the author of *Understanding the Mass*, states, "The figure of the 'Lamb of God' is full of meaning and is helpful to enkindle our devotion before Communion. The Lamb foretold by Isaiah and announced by St. John the Baptist should wipe out our sins through his obedience to God's will: 'Innocent, he never opened his mouth, like a lamb that is led to the slaughterhouse, like a sheep that is dumb before its shearers' (Isa 53:7)..."

This lamb was also foreshadowed by the paschal lamb the Jews sacrificed on the eve of their departure from their slavery in Egypt. The expression of John the Baptist reminds us of the lamb of which the Jews celebrated the Passover every year, the pledge of the reconciliation of man with God. St. John the Evangelist, who was at the foot of the cross, observed that Jesus' legs were not broken as in the case of the two thieves. We find in this detail some similarity with the prescription of God for



the Paschal lamb: 'You must not break any bone of it' (Ex 12:46) ... Finally, the Agnus Dei [Lamb of God] is also a nuptial hymn to celebrate the wedding of the Lamb with his bride, the Church, in peace and unity, as is described in the Book of Revelation. There, on the altar, the Lamb lies alive, but as if slain. Twenty-four elders are around the Lamb. They are clothed in white robes and crowned with gold. Thousands of angels hymn the sacrifice and triumph of the Lamb. Certainly, each Mass is only a prelude and a token of the future adoration of the Lamb in eternity" (p. 180-81).



So, just like so many of the other Mass parts we have reviewed, the Lamb of God is filled with meaning and symbolism, all of which are pointing directly to Jesus Christ, truly present on the altar: his Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. Just before we are ready for Holy Communion, these words remind us of Who is present on the altar and that, in his great love, he offered himself in sacrifice to save us from our sins. Here is the One who fulfills the prophecies of old. Here is the One for whom hearts have been longing. Here is the One whose perfect sacrifice draws us together in love and opens a sharing in the beauty and perfection of heaven. What a great Savior! How blessed are we that he is truly present in our midst!

For Reflection: Pray with an image of the Lamb of God in art, such as Francisco de Zurbarán's *Agnus Dei*, the Van Eyck brothers' *Ghent Altarpiece*, or Josefa de Ayala's *The Sacrificial Lamb*. Allow this visual experience of prayer to help you perceive Christ's presence at Mass.

Next Week: Fraction

St. Raymond Church Opportunities for a Holy Hour

Each Day, the Church is open for personal prayer until 5:00
Each Thursday - Eucharistic Exposition from 1-4:00 PM
Each First Friday - Nocturnal Adoration 7:30-8:30 PM



"They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother." Matthew 2:10-11

The Epiphany of the Lord

Eucharistic Revival -The Year of Mission July 21, 2024 - Pentecost 2025

Practical suggestions to apply the Four Pillars of Mission.
PILLAR 3 – EUCHARISTIC LIFE

Encouraging missionary disciples to be strengthened and renewed in their Christian identity through the Eucharist, realizing that, as we love Christ more, our lives are configured to His.

Pillar 3 focuses on engaging the Church in mission and outreach. It emphasizes living out the Eucharist in the world by spreading the Good News and fostering a deeper commitment to mission work. The activities associated with this pillar typically involve evangelization, service, and outreach, all rooted in the Eucharistic faith of the Church.

While "evangelization" may sound daunting, complicated, and like something to be left to the clergy or Catholics on YouTube, it much more than just preaching.

The most important part of evangelization is living out and demonstrating the values of the Christian faith in everyday life, through actions, kindness, and service.

When opportunities arise at home, work or in social situations, evangelization can also involve sharing with people, in a respectful way, who Jesus is, what He did for you, and suggest how His teachings can change their lives. But, many Catholics don't feel comfortable talking about their faith.

However, if you think about it, each of us have everyday things for which we are always ready and willing to "evangelize" about with others, whether it is about a book, movie, restaurant, sports team, or a vacation spot. Where does the courage and comfort level to proactively and passionately speak up about these topics come from?

To be an advocate for anything, you need a few key qualities: passion, belief, knowledge, understanding, and personal experience. To have the courage, skills, and comfort level to speak up about your faith, it takes the same qualities.

PILLAR 3 – EUCHARISTIC LIFE

"Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses." St. Paul VI

As the new year begins, here are some suggested resolutions that can help you to grow in your passion, belief, knowledge, understanding, and personal relationship with Jesus.

- **Sacramental Participation:** Start 2025 with a resolution to regularly receive the Eucharist at Mass and go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as these sacraments strengthen your faith and readiness to be a witness in your actions and words.
- **Eucharistic Adoration:** Participate in opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration as it helps to deepen your relationship with Christ. The way you get to know anyone is by spending time with them. A valuable resource to enrich your faith and love of Jesus in the Eucharist is the book "33 Days to Eucharistic Glory," which St. Raymond Parish distributed at all the Christmas Masses.
- **Daily Prayer and Scripture Reading:** Develop a daily habit of prayer and reading of Scripture. Start with Gospel of the day ... it can be found in numerous publications, e.g., "Magnificat" or "The Word Among Us" or on websites, such as The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
<https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>
- **Be a Lifelong Learner:** Why do we believe what we believe? Attempting to read Bible and the Catechism or simply learning more about our faith can seem like climbing Mount Everest. Without a guide, it is easy to get discouraged quickly and give up. However, today there are many user friendly resources to help anyone learn at their own pace about the Catholic faith. Here are just a few FREE resources:
 - **Website: Formed.org** (Parish pays cost)
 - **YouTube: Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz**
 - **YouTube: Catechism in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz**

St. Raymond's Choir



Can you sing?

**Come be part of the
St. Raymond's Choir family!
Practice Wednesday Evenings
7:30-9:00pm in the Church
Mass with the Choir is
@10:30am on Sunday**



Do you like to sing?
Do you play piano, flute or guitar?
Check out...

St. Raymond Folk Group! We are back...



We rehearse Sundays at 10:30am

in the Rectory Lower Level
and sing at the 12 Noon
Sunday Mass

If interested please
call Ann Marie Lynch at
516-599-6836

7th Grade and higher
are Welcome!



TRULY PRESENT



*Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Truly present
in the Holy Eucharist
I place My Trust in You.*



Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Italy



August 18-26, 2025

\$4,999 per person from New York (JFK) All prices
based on double occupancy.

Pricing available from any airport

Registration link: <https://www.206tours.com/cms/fronyegu/>

**Spiritual Director:
Fr. Lawrence Onyegu**



Join us from August 18-26,
2025, on another nine day
pilgrimage to Italy. The
pilgrimage will include
passage through the holy
doors, visits to significant
religious sites, spiritual
activities, and opportunities
for personal reflection.

**For more information contact
Blessed Sacrament Church, Valley Stream
(516) 568-1027**



Start the NEW YEAR Right!
*Seven date nights
 from the comfort of your home.
 Give each other the gift that will last a
 LIFETIME!*
Live your best life in love!!!

VIRTUALLY (via ZOOM)
 Tues. Evenings
 January 7, 14, 21, 28 &
 Feb. 4, 11, 18, 2025



Scan QR to apply
 Additional info??
 Call: 646-642-7463
 Visit: www.wwme.org for addl. dates/locations
 Email: jimmy.bernice.acevedo@wwme.org

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience is a heart haven that helps you listen, share, and connect more deeply.

There's no group discussion. It's just about the two of you learning to be the best, most loving and thriving couple you can be.

OR SCAN BELOW



Learn more at:
 Live your best life in love—[YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UgYUgYUgYU)

Divorced or Separated Catholics of Long Island

Including widows, widowers and singles
 A social organization for single persons
 New Member Orientation Meeting
 Tuesday January 21, 2025 at 7:00PM
 Hibernian Hall 85 Grand Avenue
 Massapequa, NY 11758
 Non-denominational.

All are Welcome

Bring proof of single status to join.

Annual dues \$40.

Refreshments following the meeting.

For further information, please call also to
 verify there will be a meeting

Terry 516-650-5528 or

Maryanne 516-205-2590



Knights of Columbus Msgr. Walsh St. Raymond Council #7220

We are a group of Catholic gentlemen striving to be the best husbands, fathers and leaders we can by serving our parish and community. The Knights of Columbus guiding principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism, permeate in all we do. Through our programs, our Knights grow closer to their families, parishes and Christ.

You are called - Join today!
 Visit kofc.org/joinus Use promo
 code: Blessed McGivney

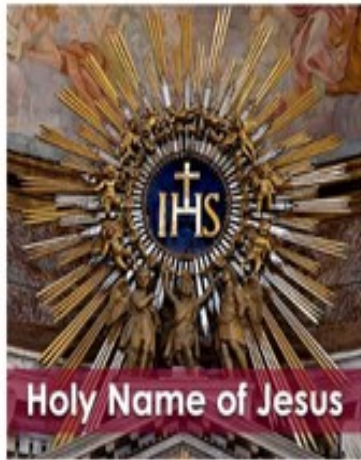


We are inviting all men of our Parish to join our Order. We meet at the Hewlett Point Yacht Club. Next meeting is January 9th and January 21st

Grand Knight – Tim Rowland
 Email – tjdr360@gmail.com



*As the Christmas season
 comes to an end, be sure to
 keep alive the peace, joy, hope
 and love you cultivated
 throughout Advent and
 Christmas. Take what you
 have received these seasons
 and live them your whole life.*



*The name
"Jesus" is the
only one that
contains the
presence it
signifies."*

Pastoral Council Members

**Peter Chojnacki, Linda Daley,
Julianne Grennen, Kimberly Moran,
Mary Murphy, Dave Ohlsen,
Linda Ohlsen, Secretary,
Stephen Rochford, Chairperson,
Fr. Chuck Romano,
Monica Tobin, Vice Chairperson**



**THE ROSE
FOR LIFE
In Memory of
John Caramello
Donated by
Madeline Parlato**

**For Dedications call
Mary Healy 887-4062**





Special One year Memorial Candle It's not too late!

Bring in the attached form to the rectory



Once again we will be having special one year devotional candles at the St. Joseph Statue in the front. These candles surround the base of the statue. There are 2 more candles available at the St. Joseph statue. The cost is \$300.00 for an entire year of having a candle lit for your intention. A small name plate will be placed at each candle that has been taken for the year. Only the name of the person you are remembering will be on each name plate. These candles will be lit for the entire Church Liturgical Year. If you are interested in one of these candles, simply fill out the following information, include your donation and bring it to the rectory. This also includes existing candles for this past year that have been lit. They need to be renewed.



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Name for the candle name plate (please print) _____



Associated Vincentian
Charities of Brooklyn

Gives Back!

For each donated car, truck or van, running or not, the Associated Vincentian Charities will give back to our parish \$75-\$200 per vehicle.

**IRS TAX DEDUCTION FREE TOWING
ANY CONDITION**

If you or someone you know has an old or neglected vehicle that is not being used, please call: 718-491-2525

For details: svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org



SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

FOUNDED IN 1833, THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL IS A WORLDWIDE ORGANIZATION OF LAY CATHOLICS, FOLLOWING CHRIST'S CALL TO SERVE THE POOR, THE SUFFERING, AND THE DEPRIVED. OUR FOUNDING ACTIVITY, STILL PRACTICED TODAY, IS THE HOME VISIT. THROUGH THESE VISITS, VINCENTIAN MEMBERS ESTABLISH PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED. WHERE RESOURCES ALLOW WE CAN PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED AND OR LEAD THEM TO OTHER RESOURCES WHERE THEY MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN THE HELP THEY REQUIRE.

ST. RAYMOND PARISH

HAS HAD AN ACTIVE CHAPTER (KNOWN AS A "CONFERENCE") OF THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOR DECADES AND INVITES ALL WHO WISH TO HELP NEIGHBORS IN NEED.

PLEASE CALL ED AT 887-9325

Ministry of Consolation



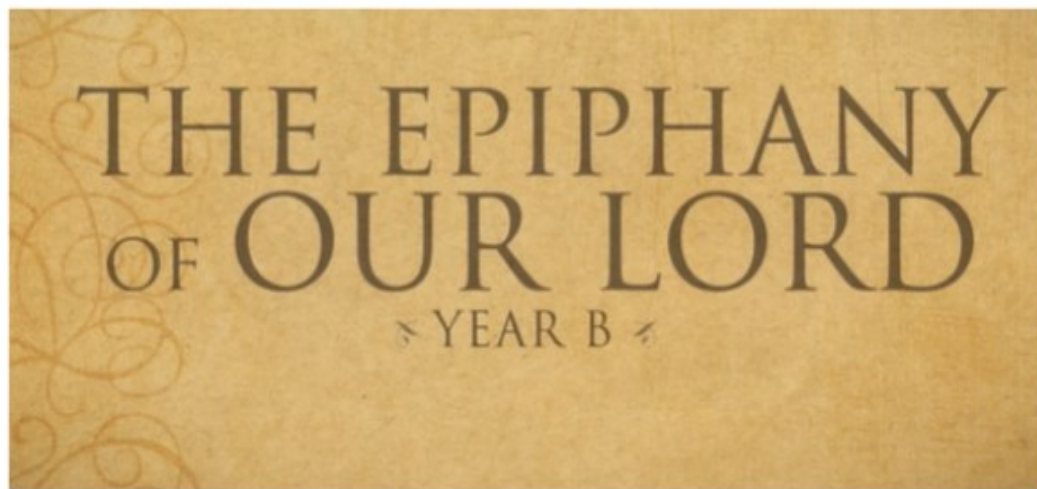
Offer the precious gift of your time, presence and sympathy to those who have lost a loved one.

Work one week a month with a team to assist families in preparing and celebrating the Funeral Mass for recently deceased loved ones.

If Interested Call Doreen Dolan 516-593-5000

FORMED

This week on **FORMED...**



The magi in today's Gospel had the wisdom and openness to see the light of the star and follow it. They were on watch, just as we were during Advent, and had a heart willing to follow the light that they saw. They set aside the tasks of daily life in order to worship the Messiah.

Are we willing to do the same in our own lives?

**Do we seek Christ, and when we find him,
do we worship him and pay him homage?**



**GO TO THE ST. RAYMOND
WEBSITE FOLLOW THE**

FORMED

LINK TO REGISTER... IT'S FREE!

Masses for this week

Monday, January 6th

7:15am Louis Majetich

8:45am Eugene Ledwith

Tuesday, January 7th

7:15am Genevieve Hill

8:45am Connie Monteleone

Wednesday, January 8th

7:15am Daniel O'Brien

8:45am Eugene Ledwith

Thursday, January 9th

7:15am Noreen & Anne Sheehy

8:45am Maria-Concetta Torre Winant

Friday, January 10th

7:15am Daniel O'Brien

8:45am Poor Souls In Purgatory

Saturday, January 11th

8:45am Elizabeth Schalkamp

5:00pm Robert Schultz

Sunday, January 12th

The Baptism of the Lord

7:30am Peter Portanova

9:00am Donald Player

10:30am Anthony & RoseMarie Simeti

12:00pm Maria Tavella, PJ O'Rourke,
Mae McGuinness, Gennaro
Giannotti, Sarah Anne Smith,
Gloria Bayer

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

1 John 3:22-4:6/Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday

1 John 4:7-10/Mark 6:34-44

Wednesday

1 John 4:11-18/Mark 6:45-52

Thursday

1 John 4:19-5:4/Luke 4:14-22

Friday

1 John 5:5-13/Luke 5:12-16

Saturday

1 John 5:14-21/John 3:22-30

Sunday

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22



Please Pray for Our Sick

Baby Faith Madison

Mary Lynch

Fr. Don Hansen

Linda Dagostino

Karen Pagnotta

Jodi Neckles

Michael L.

Diane Minucci

Patrick Dunning

Philip Barone

Caroline Saporito

Anthony Campanile

Baby Cooper Graham

Maureen Condiss

Timothy Murphy

Elizabeth Lacchini

Michael Malone

Noreen Concannon

Jose Colon

Patrick Malone

Eileen Schreiber

Maureen McCarthy

Nick S.

(Names are printed for 3 weeks unless
the rectory is notified otherwise)



Rest in Peace

Patricia D. Kosotan

Lois G. Miller

Parish Bulletin Board



**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
STRUGGLING WITH ALCOHOL
OR SUBSTANCE USE?**

DON'T DO IT ALONE. HELP IS HERE!

**ADDICTION TREATMENT SERVICES
30-C CARLOUGH ROAD BOHEMIA, NY 11716
631-589-4144
WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIES.CC**

Communal Prayer Before Mass

Father in heaven, we wish to prepare well for participation in this Mass, in which we enter the Last Supper, Passion, Death and Resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. He is as present to us today in his Word and in the Eucharist, as he was with his apostles. Holy Spirit please quiet our minds from the busyness and distractions of our day, so that we will have hearts and minds attentive to the words of Jesus and ready to receive his Body and Blood in Holy Communion. Blessed Mother, take our hearts and give us yours, that like you, we may ponder Jesus' words and do whatever he tells us to do. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**IF YOU LIVE ALONE
YOU NEED A MEDICAL ALERT
At HOME or AWAY**

• GPS • Fall Alert • 24/7 • 365 Monitoring
Ambulance • Police • Fire • Family/Friends

***MDMedAlert™**

As Low As **\$19⁹⁵**
/month*



No Contract • No Fees • E-Z Setup • md-medialert.com **CALL 800 867-7250**

**Personalized
Primary Care for
YOU** throughout
Long Island



To schedule an
appointment, call
(866) MY-LI-DOC
(866-695-4362)



Easy. Honest. Accurate.

Save on your property taxes
with Nassau County's trusted
tax reduction experts.



MAIDENBAUM

THE LEADER IN PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION

Apply online at mptrg.com/bulletins
or call 516.715.1223
Hablamos Español

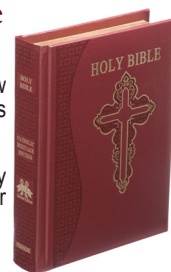
Maidenbaum Property Tax Reduction Group, LLC • 481 Chestnut Street, Cedarhurst, NY 11516

Fireside Catholic Heritage Edition Bible

The Catholic Heritage Edition in the New American Bible Revised Edition translation is the ideal Catholic Family Bible.

Features: Our Catholic Family, Family Record section and Burgundy padded cover with gold-gilded page edges.

Only \$79.99 post paid



C/O The Church Bulletin, Inc.
200 Dale Street • W. Babylon, NY 11704

Enclosed please find check/money order for \$ _____ to cover the cost of _____ (quantity) copies of the Fireside Family Bible, to be shipped:

post paid to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____



Sound Audiology
Hearing Aids and Audiology Services

Dr. Donna Rubino
Dr. Clare Villanueva
Doctors of Audiology
Hearing Aids
215a Atlantic Ave.
Lynbrook, NY 11563
516-224-7588

Edwin C. Gerrity Agency
All your Insurance needs
25D Main St., East Rockaway, NY 11518
Serving the Community over 50 years
(516) 593-4242



Perry Funeral Home, Inc.

Kenneth Lysak Jr., Philip M. Taglia

- Family Owned & Operated
- Newly Renovated
- Area's Largest Chapel
- Preplanning
- Prepayment

Since 1825

118 Union Avenue, Lynbrook

516.593.1111

www.perryfh.com



- Handicap Accessible
- Monuments & Inscriptions
- Children's Playroom
- Competitive Pricing
- Ample Parking

BIRTHRIGHT
OF
NASSAU/SUFFOLK
(516) 785-4070
Confidential
Assistance

Celebrity Chase Collision

191 Earle Ave., Lynbrook, NY 11563
516 593-0920
Ask about your parish discount



BIANCA CAMARDA, DDS
PEDIATRIC DENTIST

133 BROADWAY, LYNBROOK
516-561-3333

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

little smiles on broadway
pediatric dentistry and orthodontics

CAREFREE
AIR CONDITIONING GAS HEATING
AIR FILTRATION WATER FILTRATION
516-599-2848

Assisi Veterinary Hospital
Internal Medicine, Surgery
& Emergency Medicine
Pet Grooming and
Boarding Available
250 Hempstead Ave., Malverne
516-256-0022
www.assisivh.com



Guy Donza, Thomas Donza
& Christine Donza
Funeral Directors &
Pre-Arrangement Counselors

1926 **90** YEARS 2016
Warm and Personal Service -
A Family Tradition Since 1926

Donza

FUNERAL HOME, INC.

- Solely Owned & Operated by The Donza Family
- Newly Expanded and Decorated Chapels
- Ample Parking

333 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, N.Y. 11518
Tel: (516) 593-2521 / Fax: (516) 825-6380
email: donzafuneralhome@aol.com



Final Touch
Auto Collision
Collision Specialist - 24 Hour Towing
All Insurance Accepted

3586 Merrick Rd., Seaford
516.221.7611
169 Herricks Rd., Garden City Park
516.741-7950
info@finaltouchli.com
www.finaltouchli.com

At Ocean Financial, our members' financial well-being is at the heart of everything we do!



Speak with a Member Contact Representative today to learn more about how we can help you.

516.620.8100 - OceanFinancial.org
Oceanside Branch 45 Atlantic Avenue Oceanside, NY 11572
Seaford Branch 4050 Merrick Road Seaford, NY 11783



Da Nicola

Restaurant • Bar • Catering
Private Party Room Available

- APPETIZERS • SOUPS & SALADS • PASTAS • ENTREES
- CLASSIC ITALIAN DISHES • STEAKS • CHOPS • SEAFOOD & MORE



1203 Broadway, Hewlett, NY • 516.812.5155
www.DaNicolaHewlett.com

LET US CATER AN EVENT!



"Long Island's Most Trusted Name in Real Estate"
HILARY H. BECKER, C.P.M.
(516) 887-0677

Hewlett Point Yacht Club, Inc.
"The most desirable place to dock your boat in East Rockaway"

- Boating and non boating Memberships
- Air Conditioned Party Room for rent
- Social Events throughout the year
- Activities and events for children • Free Wi-Fi
- Beautiful views of Hewlett Bay
- Private Beach • Skeet Shooting • Deep water access • Slips with updated water and electric

Call Ed for Details 516-359-2676

James Tech Electric
Your East Rockaway
Licensed & Insured
Electrical Contractor
Jamestechelectric.com
536-6900 647-0960

Flinch & Bruns Funeral Home Inc.
CREMATION SERVICES - BURIAL - FUNERAL
Serving the entire South Shore Since 1932
34 Hempstead Avenue. Corner Peninsula Blvd. Lynbrook
516-599-3600 www.flinchandbruns.com

EAST ROCKAWAY FLORIST
338 Atlantic Ave.
East Rockaway,
516.568.7077
www.eastrockawayflorist.com
info@eastrockawayflorist.com
@e_rockflorist

TOWERS

Est. 1933

FUNERAL HOME INC.

2681 Long Beach Rd Oceanside
(516) 766-0425

www.towersfuneralhomeny.com



Family Owned and Operated

120 Merrick Rd.
Lynbrook
HILTON HOSPITAL FOR ANIMALS
516-887-2914
www.hiltonanimalhospital.net
Preventive Care, Internal Medicine,
Surgery & Dentistry
Bathing & Boarding Available